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PRESS RELEASE

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Prospect Street / Pearl Street / Colchester Avenue Intersection Improvements – A Pilot Project

The busy Pearl Street/Prospect Street/Colchester Avenue intersection has been problematic for years. With the help and ideas from the community, the Department of Public Works will be initiating a solution-oriented pilot project at the intersection this summer extending into the fall.

Drivers, walkers and bikers may have already noticed parking changes and new lane markings, but as of August 9, 2013 everyone should be on the lookout for a new traffic pattern, signs, and signals aimed at improving safety and mobility through the intersection. Depending on the results of the pilot, these changes may be temporary.

During the pilot project, the Department of Public Works and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission will collect data and receive public comments. Changes being piloted include left-turn prohibitions from Pearl Street onto North Prospect Street, separate green phases for northbound and southbound vehicles on Prospect Street (as opposed to existing concurrent green phases), advanced pedestrian walk signals with respective right turn restrictions for vehicles, and new lane alignments on Pearl Street and South Prospect Street.

The project is a short term alternative being considered in the Pearl Street/Prospect Street/Colchester Avenue Scoping Study. The pilot project will allow the Steering Committee to evaluate this option and compare it to longer-term, higher-cost alternatives that cannot be tested in the field. More information on the Scoping Study can be found at <http://www.ccrpcvt.org>.

Public feedback during the pilot project is extremely valuable, so please don't hesitate to call or write once the project is underway. More information on the pilot project is available online at www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW.

The Department of Public Works would like to thank the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, the Steering Committee, the Consultant Team of Resource Systems Group, Inc. and the members of the public who have all helped to develop this pilot project.